

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 723

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the Martha M. Brown and Lois H. Daniel Memorial Library upon the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of this General Assembly to recognize those public institutions of learning and culture that are celebrating milestones in their venerable history; and

WHEREAS, the Martha M. Brown and Lois H. Daniel Memorial Library is one such praiseworthy institution which has served as a place of learning and enrichment for the faculty, staff, and students of Tennessee State University (TSU) for 100 years; and

WHEREAS, when the Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State Normal School, now Tennessee State University, opened on June 19, 1912, its library was housed in a small room in the old Administration Building and consisted of only a meager collection of resources; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Martha M. Brown, a valued member of the first TSU faculty, took charge of the tiny library in 1925 and spearheaded the construction of a separate library building, one which boasted shelf space for 25,000 volumes and seating for 150 library users; and

WHEREAS, in reaching out to the next generation of patrons, a branch library was established on the second floor for the high school and elementary school students of the practice school in 1933 and, soon thereafter, the Library Science Club was organized to foster an appreciation for the role that the library played in the students' cultural, educational, and professional development; and

WHEREAS, because of her peerless dedication to excellence and unwavering devotion to TSU, Ms. Lois H. Daniel was appointed the second head librarian in 1945, and she immediately began to usher in a host of positive changes; and

WHEREAS, under her astute leadership, the library, then called the Martha M. Brown Memorial Building, was renovated to accommodate 120,000 volumes and provided seating for 850 users, including sixty-five individual study carrels; and

WHEREAS, as TSU continued to flourish in both enrollment and degree-offerings, the demands on the library grew; and

WHEREAS, renamed the Martha M. Brown and Lois H. Daniel Memorial Library in 1976, the library was moved into a new, \$2.4 million building of 82,000 square feet which included special study and research facilities for faculty and graduate students and a Special Collections Room to house historical archives, theses, dissertations, and other special materials; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Evelyn P. Fancher took the reigns of this noble institution in 1976 and made it her mission to bring innovative programs and offerings to TSU students; and

WHEREAS, after the first computer terminals were installed in the Library in 1979, the use of technology for library management and information storage and retrieval became a hallmark of TSU's Brown-Daniel Library; the groundbreaking INFOTRAC, DISCLOSURE, CD-ROM, and microcomputer stations were soon introduced and the revolutionary SISI library automated system was installed; and

WHEREAS, appointed Library Director in 1991, Dr. Yildiz B. Binkley has continued the Martha M. Brown and Lois H. Daniel Memorial Library's rich legacy as a leader in technological innovations, installing the CD-ROM Multi-platter system, establishing the Computer Resource Equity of Access in Tennessee Education (CREATE) Network and a computer skills laboratory for inner-city children, providing a wireless environment for patrons, installing an integrated library system, implementing online access to periodical holdings, and adding countless online collections, databases, and indexes; and

WHEREAS, a founding member of the Nashville Area Library Alliance (NALA), the Tennessee Academic Library Collaborative, and the HBCU Library Alliance, the Brown-Daniel Library has stood as a paragon of excellence and a highly-influential figure in the information age for the past century; and

WHEREAS, its staff have participated in several distinguished conferences, including the HBCU Library Alliance Leadership Conference, the Digital Project funded by the Mellon

Foundation, and assisted by Cornell University, and the HBCU Library Alliance Photograph Preservation Project funded by the Mellon Foundation in cooperation with the University of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, currently focused on the establishment of a digital learning commons, mobile access, self-checking capabilities, the expansion of on-line access, service to the profession, collaboration with faculty in the classroom, and on-line and hybrid courses, the library continues to play an important role in Tennessee State University's mission, embodied in its motto: Think, Work Serve; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud one of Tennessee's exemplary public institutions, the Martha M. Brown and Lois H. Daniel Memorial Library, upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the good people of Tennessee State University in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Martha M. Brown and Lois H. Daniel Memorial Library, recognizing its indelible contributions to the lives of the faculty, staff, and students of TSU and expressing our deep appreciation to the past and current staff, aides, and volunteers of the library for their years of meritorious service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.